

Application Serial No.: 10/772,493
Applicants: Tina L. Bramlett et al.
Response Filed: May 16, 2006
Response to Office Action Dated: January 19, 2006
Response To Advisory Action Dated: April 19, 2006

IV. REMARKS

United States Serial No. 10/772,493 was filed on February 5, 2004. Claims 1 and 18 have been amended by the present response. Claims 20-37 were previously cancelled. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 1-19. In view of the amendments to claims 1 and 18, Applicants submit that claims 1-19 are in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 1 recites "an exterior finishing material." The Examiner has questioned whether "an exterior finishing material" is the same as the "exterior finishing system." These two phrases are not the same. The "exterior finishing system" includes "exterior finishing materials" as a component. The specification discloses that "exterior finishing materials" include weather barriers, insulation, exterior cladding, and exterior insulation and finish systems. Specification at Page 3, Lines 5-6; Page 6, Lines 15-16.

Independent claim 1 also recites "a bonding material" at lines 8 and 10. The Examiner has questioned whether the bonding material recited at lines 8 and 10 is the same. They are the same. Applicants have amended claim 1. The first occurrence (line 8) of the phrase "bonding material" remains preceded by the article "a". The second occurrence (line 10) of the phrase "bonding material" is now preceded by the word "said".

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowability directed to claims 1-19.

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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF TELEPHONIC INTERVIEWS

One of Applicants' attorneys, Mr. Salvatore A. Sidoti, had placed calls to Examiner Dixon to discuss the Advisory Action. Examiner Dixon returned Mr. Sidoti's call today to discuss the Advisory Action mailed April 19, 2006.

During the telephone conversation, Examiner Dixon and Mr. Sidoti discussed the phrases "a bonding material" and "exterior finishing materials." Examiner Dixon requested Mr. Sidoti to file a further Response to clarify these terms. Mr. Sidoti advised Examiner Dixon that the Applicants were willing to submit the requested Response and to make an amendment to claim 1 to clarify the phrase "a bonding material."

Mr. Sidoti also advised Examiner Dixon that it Applicants' position that since there are no art rejections set forth in the Office Action, claims 1-19 appear to be in condition for allowance.

While no definitive agreement regarding the patentability of claims 1-19 was reached during the telephone interview, Examiner Dixon indicated that the amendments to claims 1 and 18 appear to place the application in condition for allowance.

No other claims were discussed during the telephonic interview.

No prior art was discussed during the telephonic interview.

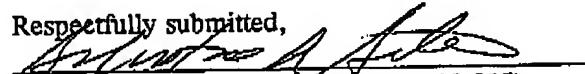
No other matters were discussed during the telephonic interview.

Applicants respectfully submit that this statement accurately reflects the substance of the telephone interview between Examiner Dixon and Mr. Sidoti.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, Applicants' undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date